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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00
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O 282316Z JUL 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2713
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 03055

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, MARR, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: ADVANCE UN SURVEY GROUP

REF: USUN 3018

1. POLMIN AND MISOFFS DISCUSSED PLANS FOR SENDING ADVANCE SURVEY GROUP TO NAMIBIA WITH UN FIELD OPERATIONS SERVICE (UN-FOS) DIRECTOR LANSKY JULY 28. LANSKY REITERATED DESIRE TO AFFIX UN DECALS TO AIRCRAFT, SO IT WOULD BE CLEARLY INDENTIFIABLE AS PERFORMING UN MISSION.

2. LANSKY SAID UN HAS SPOKEN WITH SOUTH AFRICANS ABOUT WAIVER OF VISA REQUIREMENTS AND CLEARANCE FOR FLIGHT AND IS CONFIRMING BY LETTER. UN WOULD ALSO HANDLE VISA WAIVERS FOR PLANE CREW. (MOST PASSENGERS WILL TRAVEL ON UN LAISSEZ-PASSER BUT SOME NATIONAL PASSPORTS.) SOUTH AFRICAN ANSWER WILL NOT BE FORTHCOMING UNTIL AFTER BOTHA'S RETURN TO PRETORIA AND DISCUSSION WITHIN GOVT. UN ANTICIPATES WEDNESDAY, AUG 2, IS EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE SAG RESPONSE COULD BE ANTICIPATED, AND
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AHTISAARI HAS NOW DECIDED TO PLAN TENTATIVELY FOR GROUP TO DEPART SAT AUG 5. (UN HOPES TO SEND A TWO-MAN ADVANCE TEAM OUT AS SOON AS CLEARANCE RECEIVED, BUT THEY WOULD TRAVEL COMMERCIAL.)

3. ACCORDING TO LANSKY, PLAN IS NOW TO HAVE AS MANY AS POSSIBLE OF SURVEY TEAM ASSEMBLE IN NEW YORK. LANSKY

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SAID THERE WOULD BE NO NEED FOR STOP IN EUROPE (AS EARLIER INDICATED TO DEPT BY PHONE). TOTAL NUMBER OF PASSENGERS STILL NOT FIRM, BUT LANSKY'S CURRENT PLANNING FIGURE IS 51. THEY WOULD PROBABLY ALSO WISH TO TAKE SOME OFFICE SUPPLIES, DOZEN TYPEWRITERS, AND SOME PORTABLE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT (E.G. WALKIE-TALKIES). HE CONFIRMED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE ARE NO PLANS TO SEND HEAVY OR BULKY EQUIPMENT. WE REITERATED REQUEST FOR LIST OF NAMES OF PASSENGERS AS SOON AS AVAILABLE.

4. CONVERSATION CONCLUDED WITH DISCUSSION OF PROBLEMS THAT WILL BE FACED IN AIRLIFTING ANY SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF EQUIPMENT OR PERSONNEL INTO WINDHOEK, DUE TO LIMITED AIRPORT SIZE AND FUEL AVAILABILITY. IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT OTHER ALTERNATIVES (INCLUDING SEALIFT AND ALTERNATIVE AIRPORTS) WILL HAVE TO BE CAREFULLY EXAMINED, AND THAT, OF COURSE, WILL BE ONE OF THINGS SURVEY GROUP WILL BE LOOKING INTO. YOUNG

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